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REPORT
TO THE
HALTWHISTLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1949



BY
J. K. ADAMSON, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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**To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District
Council of Haltwhistle.**

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of my department for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

May I again express my thanks to the staff of the Council, particularly to the Clerk, Sanitary Inspectors and the Engineer for their valuable assistance throughout the year and in compiling this report.

I am also grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Committees who control the work of the department for their unfailing support and continuing interest.

JOHN K. ADAMSON,
Medical Officer of Health.



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HALTWHISTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

A decrease of 41 in the civil population of the Rural District results in a Mid-1949 estimated figure of 7,376.

Birth Rates

For the first time since the 1946 peak figure of 20.72, an increase in the Live Birth Rate over the preceeding year has been recorded.

The present figure is 18.17 per 1,000 population, this represents an increase of 1.32 i.e., 9 Births.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 16.7.

Out of 134 Live Births 6 were illegitimate i.e., 4.5 per cent.

There were 4 Still Births, 2 legitimate and 2 illegitimate.

Infantile Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age totalled 4, resulting in an Infantile Mortality Rate of 29 per 1,000 live births. This compares with a figure of 32 for England and Wales.

Of these four deaths 2 were due to prematurity and one due to congenital malformation.

General Death Rate

An increase of 17 deaths over the 1948 total was recorded.

The General Death Rate is thus equivalent to 18.17 per 1,000 population per annum.

This figure is rather higher than the national figure.

Disease of the Circulatory system accounted for 64% of all mortality.

Cancer caused 2 more deaths in 1949 than in 1948.

1943—15	1946—13	1948—14
1944—20	1947—19	1949—16
1945—23		

Tuberculosis accounted for 5 deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever

Only three mild cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during 1949.

Diphtheria

It is very satisfactory to report that the high percentage of immunised children has resulted in diphtheria being totally eliminated from the district during the year.

Poliomyelitis

One case was reported and was removed to hospital. Fortunately it proved to be non-paralytic.

Measles

A record number of measles notifications was received.

This was principally due to a major epidemic commencing in November and reaching a peak at the end of the year.

A total of 147 cases occurred up to December 31st, 1949. No adult cases were reported.

Tuberculosis

There were only 3 new notifications of Tuberculosis during the year comparing with a total of 11 cases last year.

Paratyphoid Fever

In July it was reported that 4 cases of paratyphoid fever in Carlisle District and one in Hexham had been reported.

The common factor in these four cases was that they had all consumed cream cakes from a Haltwhistle Bakery.

The staff of the Bakery concerned co-operated in the immediate investigation and 300 specimens of excreta were analysed.

It was discovered that one of the employees was suffering from the disease.

At the time of the outbreak extensive alterations to the bakery were being carried out and the temporary sanitary and washing accommodation was totally inadequate.

New sanitary and washing accommodation was installed and no further cases attributable to this source have since occurred.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The area of the Haltwhistle Rural District is 96,333 acres.

The estimated population for 1949 is 7,376.

The number of inhabited houses on December 31st, 1949 was 2,253.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £136 16s. 5d.

The rateable value is £36,241.

HEALTH SERVICES

(I) HOSPITALS.

(a) Haltwhistle War Memorial Hospital.

Surgeon: Mr. Collingwood Stewart, F.R.C.S.

Gynaecologist: Mr. Linton Snaith, F.R.C.S.

Matron: Miss G. Collier.

This hospital is now under the management of the Hexham and District Management Committee.

(i) X-RAY DEPARTMENT.

X-Ray examinations are carried out Mondays and Fridays at 1-30 p.m.

(ii) SURGICAL Out-patient Department.

Wednesdays 12 noon.

(iii) GYNAECOLOGIST Out-patient Department.

First Friday every month at 2 p.m.

(b) Hexham General Hospital.

Accommodation at this hospital is available for patients from this district.

Patients for Out-patient Physiotherapy are treated at this hospital.

(c) Carlisle Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Cases of infectious disease requiring In-patient treatment are accommodated at the above hospital.

(II) TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE.

(i) Chest Clinics.

At Hexham War Memorial Hospital by appointment only.

Tuberculosis Officer: Frederic L. Wollaston, M.R.C.S.

In 1949 the number of new cases seen from the Western part of Northumberland County was 161. Compared with 267 in 1948, of these 49 were found to be tuberculous as compared with 40 in 1948.

The number of contacts seen was 116 and X-Ray examinations totalled 760.

(ii) Institutional Treatment.

(a) Wooley Sanatorium.

The standard of treatment at this hospital continues to be exceptionally high. It is to be regretted that accommodation is limited. The beds available are Male 59, Female 58, Children Nil.

(b) Hexham General Hospital.

13 Male and 12 Female beds are available in this hospital for the treatment of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

(c) Stannington Sanatorium.

25 children's beds are available. The waiting list at this hospital is now prolonged.

(iii) Mass Radiography Unit.

This unit has not visited the district during 1949 but arrangements are completed for a visit early in 1950.

(III) MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

(i) Ante-Natal Care.

Two clinics per month are held at the Haltwhistle Hospital by the local doctors.

(ii) Haltwhistle Hospital.

The majority of the expectant mothers in the district are confined in Haltwhistle Hospital.

The services of a visiting Gynaecologist together with his staff, have proved of great assistance and are also available for emergency work.

Bowmer Bank Hostel, Morpeth, cares for unmarried expectant mothers.

(iii) Domiciliary Service.

Two midwives reside at the Haltwhistle Nurses Home, Allenbrae, Haltwhistle (Tel. 368).

A car is provided for the use of the Nurse in attending cases in outlying districts.

(IV) HOME HELP SERVICE.

The County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district.

Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required in cases of illness.

This service is invaluable in cases where mothers prefer to be confined at home.

(V) COUNTY ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICE.

The Orthopaedic clinic for children is held at Hexham General Hospital every Tuesday at 10 a.m.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon attends on the fourth Tuesday every month.

(VI) CHILD WELFARE SERVICE.

Clinics are held at Haltwhistle Hospital every Thursday by the Child Welfare Medical Officer and the Health Visitor.

(VII) SCHOOL DENTAL CLINIC.

Clinics are held every Monday at Haltwhistle War Memorial Hospital. The Dentist visits the various schools in the district.

Dental Officer: Mr. Ireland.

(VIII) PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Public Health Laboratory under the County Bacteriologist Dr. Messer, is now located in new premises at the Newcastle General Hospital.

Blood Transfusion Centre—Jesmond Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

(IX) TOWN DENTIST.

It is regretted that no practising dentist at present resides in or visits Haltwhistle despite strenuous efforts to attract a suitable man.

It is hoped that a dentist will shortly be established in Haltwhistle.

(X) AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This service is run as an Agency for the Northumberland County Council under the National Health Service Act.

Driving and Attendance duties are performed by Members of the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade.

Cases Transported by Ambulance.

Accident cases	 20	Mileage covered	 325
Sick Patients	 153	Mileage covered	5,079
Total calls	 173	Mileage covered	5,404

Sitting Cases transported by Car.

Sick Patients	1,154	Mileage covered	27,037
Total cases attended	1,327	Mileage covered	32,441

It must again be emphasised that the apparent excessive use of this service is occasioned by a considerable

proportion of the population living some distance from Haltwhistle and in isolated areas.

The long distance to be travelled to reach the large hospitals and the frequent journeys to Hexham to the physiotherapy and rehabilitation centre result in a considerable mileage being covered.

TABLE I.

The following table shows the principal vital and mortality rates for the years 1943-1949.

Year.	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population.	General Death Rate per 1,000 Living.	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.	Death Rate from Respiratory T.B. per 1,000 Living.
1943	13.6	16.5	29	.53
1944	16.6	13.8	17	.35
1945	17.1	14.3	68	.43
1946	20.72	17.6	81	.56
1947	17.98	16.57	29	.14
1948	16.85	14.02	24	.45
1949	18.17	16.40	30	.68

TABLE II.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease	YEAR						
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	4	26	6	5	11	19	3
Whooping Cough	2	—	6	2	2	—	14
Diphtheria	3	3	2	3	—	2	—
Erysipelas	1	2	2	1	1	—	—
Measles	62	2	67	34	33	19	147
Pneumonia	2	3	4	16	5	2	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Anterior Polio-Myelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	1	—	2	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	74	36	88	61	53	45	172

TABLE III.
TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods.	New Notifications.						Deaths.					
	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—
1	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—
5	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—
15	1	—	1	...	—	—	1	—	1	...	—	—
45	1	—	1	...	1	1	2	2	4	...	—	—
65	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—
	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—
Total	2	—	2	...	1	1	3	2	5	...	—	—
	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—

TABLE IV.
NOTIFICATIONS OF BIRTHS

Year	Registered Births.						Illegitimate Births (included in Registered Births)					
	Live Births.		Still Births.		Total		Live Births.		Still Births.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.		
1943	...	57	47	3	1	108	...	6	2	—	—	8
1944	...	56	62	1	1	120	...	3	5	—	—	8
1945	...	58	60	—	2	120	...	8	3	—	—	11
1946	...	83	65	1	—	149	...	7	4	—	—	11
1947	...	74	64	1	3	142	...	4	1	—	—	5
1948	...	70	55	1	—	126	...	3	3	1	—	7
1949	...	71	63	2	2	138	...	2	4	1	1	8

TABLE V.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES.

Causes of Death.	Year							
	1946		1947		1948		1949	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Typhoid & Parat. Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebrospinal Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—

6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	1	1	—	3	—	3	2
7.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
9.	Influenza	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
10.	Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Ac. Poli-myelo and Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Ac. Infantile Encephalitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of Mouth M., and Uterus F.	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	1
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	2	4	2	2	2	1	2
15.	Cancer of Breast	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
16.	Cancer of other sites ...	4	3	5	4	5	5	4	5
17.	Diabetes	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
18.	Intracranial Vascular Lesions	11	10	10	14	9	7	7	16
19.	Heart Disease	22	25	21	19	26	16	31	18
20.	Other Diseases of Circulatory Systems	2	3	4	2	2	2	2	3
21.	Bronchitis	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	—
22.	Pneumonia	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
23.	Other respiratory diseases	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	4	1	—	1	2	2	1	3
28.	Nephritis	—	4	2	1	2	1	3	—
29.	Puer. Post-abortion. Sepsis...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Premature Births	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	1
32.	Congenital Causes	3	2	4	1	1	—	1	—
33.	Suicide	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
34.	Road Traffic Accidents ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—
35.	Other Violent Causes ...	1	—	—	2	1	1	1	—
36.	All other Causes	3	3	3	2	4	2	2	2
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	TOTAL	63	63	61	57	61	43	63	58
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

In common with many districts throughout the country the water supplies in this district were seriously affected by the continued drought. With the exception of the Birch Trees supply, the yield of the supplies fell very considerably and in some cases, were the lowest ever recorded. The villages in the eastern area of the district were mainly affected and in order to keep the population supplied, water was led from the Haltwhistle town supply by the Northumberland County Fire Brigade.

This was done over a period of 3 months and approximately 54,000 gallons were supplied by this means.

The following extensions to the water mains were carried out during the year:

Plenmeller.—The Scheme for the laying of approximately 900 yards of 3 inch main was completed and affords a supply to 4 farms and 23 houses.

Birkshaw Supply.—The 3 inch main was extended from Westwood to Chainley Ford, a distance of 110 yards, affording a supply to 4 houses.

Birch Trees Supply.—A Ministry of Health Enquiry was held in October in regard to the scheme for the augmentation and extension of this supply. The execution of this scheme will play a major part in improving sanitary conditions in the area.

Slaggyford Scheme.—A scheme was prepared by the Engineer for the provision of a water supply to the village of Slaggyford and surrounding properties. Briefly the proposals are to collect springs on Black Hill by piping the water to a central collecting chamber. An area of 5.73 acres will be fenced to protect the source from pollution. Three inch mains will carry water to a service reservoir having a capacity of 20,000 gallons and mains of similar capacity will be laid to the properties known as Burnstones, Town Green and Slaggyford. The springs to be tapped have a minimum yield of 29,000 gallons per day and the number of properties to be supplied is 69 including 13 farms of which 8 are engaged in milk production. The population to be served is estimated at 260 persons.

The Scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Health and when carried out will result in the abandoning of nine unsatisfactory supplies.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Samples of water for bacteriological analysis were taken from the following supplies:

Date	Locality		Result	
	Public Supply	Private Supply	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
12-1-49	—	... Well Cottage, Greenhead	... —	1
12-1-49	—	... Ulpham (Collect- ing Chamber)	... 1	—
12-1-49	—	... Orchard House (Tank)	... —	1
12-1-49	—	... Stonchall Farm (Well)	... —	1
23-2-49	—	... Far House (No. 1 Spring)	... —	1
23-2-49	—	... Far House (No. 2 Spring)	... —	1
23-2-49	—	... Orchard House (main Collecting Chamber)	—	1
23-2-49	—	... Orchard House (No. 1 Collecting Chamber)	—	1
15-3-49	—	... Far House	... 1	—
15-3-49	—	... Orchard House	... —	1
15-3-49	—	... Orchard House	... —	1
15-3-49	Birkshaw (Inlet)	... —	... 1	—
24-3-49	Birch Trees	... —	... 1	—
24-3-49	Melkridge	... —	... 1	—
24-3-49	—	... Long Syke Farm (Spring)	... —	1
24-3-49	—	... Long Syke Farm (Tap)	... —	1
26-4-49	—	... Long Syke Farm (Spring)	... 1	—
26-4-49	—	... Long Syke Farm (No. 2 Spring)	... —	1
26-4-49	—	... Long Syke (Tap)	... —	1
7-6-49	—	... King Arthur's Well, Walldown.	1	—
7-6-49	Gilsland (Spring)	... —	... 1	—

7-6-49	Gilsland (Collecting Chamber)	...	—	...	1	—
7-6-49	—	...	Long Syke Farm (Tap)	...	1	—
13-6-49	—	...	Fellside Cottages	—	1	—
13-6-49	Halton-lea-gate	...	—	...	1	—
22-6-49	Slaggyford (Spring)	...	—	...	1	—
22-6-49	Slaggyford (No. 2 Spring)	...	—	...	—	1
22-6-49	Slaggyford (No. 3 Spring)	...	—	...	—	1
28-6-49	Slaggyford (No. 2 Spring)	...	—	...	1	—
28-6-49	Slaggyford (No. 3 Spring)	...	—	...	1	—
22-8-49	Tow House	...	—	...	1	—
22-8-49	Tow House (Stand Pipe)	...	—	...	1	—
22-8-49	—	...	Kirkhaugh Farm	1	—	—
22-8-49	Eals Village	...	—	...	1	—
26-9-49	—	...	Featherstone Station House	1	—	—
26-9-49	—	...	Ridley Farm	...	—	1
26-9-49	—	...	Ridley Hall	...	—	1
10-10-49	—	...	Ridley Hall (Well)	1	—	—
26-10-49	—	...	Ridley Hall	...	—	1
10-11-49	—	...	Ridley Hall (No. 1 Collecting Chamber)	—	1	—
10-11-49	—	...	Ridley Hall (No. 2 Collecting Chamber)	—	1	—
10-11-49	—	...	Ridley Hall (No. 3 Collecting Chamber)	—	1	—
14-12-49	—	...	Slaggyford	...	—	1
14-12-49	—	...	Town Green	...	—	1
14-12-49	—	...	Burnstones	...	1	—
14-12-49	—	...	Stone Hall Farm	—	1	—

On receipt of unsatisfactory bacteriological reports immediate steps have been taken for the prevention of contamination.

Samples of water for chemical analysis were taken from the following supplies.

LOCALITY				
Date	Public Supply		Private Supply	Result
24- 2-49	—	...	Far House Farm	Satisfactory
25- 3-49	—	...	Long Syke Farm	Unsatisfactory
20- 5-49	—	...	Harpertown Farm	Satisfactory
20- 6-49	—	...	Long Syke Farm	do.
23- 6-49	No. 1 Spring Slaggyford.		—	do.
12- 7-49	New Spring Gilsland.	...	—	do.
30- 8-49	Melkridge	...	—	do.
20- 9-49	Bardon Mill	...	—	do.
20- 9-49	Melkridge	...	—	do.
4-10-49	North Side	...	—	do.

As the Rural Housing Survey has not yet been completed the correct number of houses supplied direct from public mains and by stand pipes is not yet available. The following table shows the number of houses and estimated population supplied by public mains.

Parish					Number of Houses	Estimated Population
Bellister	...	...	...	...	28	112
Blenkinsop	...	...	...	...	30	107
Coanwood	...	...	...	...	1	4
Featherstone	...	...	...	...	21	75
Haltwhistle	...	...	...	...	1,091	3,617
Hartleyburn	...	...	...	...	43	142
Henshaw	...	...	...	...	121	471
Lambley	...	...	...	...	34	139
Melkridge	...	...	...	...	53	209
Plenmeller	...	...	...	...	25	82
Thirlwall	...	...	...	...	115	369
Thorngraston	...	...	...	...	57	226
TOTAL				...	1,618	5,553

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Park Village (Bellister Parish).

The scheme for the laying of a 6 inch sewer and the construction of sewage disposal works approved in 1948 was completed in December this year. The works comprise

two sedimentation tanks, one storm water tank, bacteria filters and two humus tanks. The village consists of 22 properties and work has commenced in the provision of water closets and connections to the sewer.

Redburn Housing Site (Henshaw Parish).

Following upon the Council's decision to build 44 houses at Redburn the construction of sewage disposal works was commenced during the year. The works consist of settling tanks and bacteria filter beds. The works will be used only by the Council Estate and are installed as a temporary measure until such time as a scheme for the area is prepared.

Halton-Lea-Gate (Hartleyburn Parish).

A scheme for the laying of new sewers and the construction of sewage disposal works was prepared by the Engineer. These works are required following the Council's decision to build 60 houses at this village. The works comprise detritus tanks, settlement tanks, storm water tanks, bacteria filters and humus tanks and are designed to deal with the sewage from the existing houses in the village as well as the Council Estate.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Centralised slaughtering for the two districts of Haltwhistle and Alston continues to be carried out at Portobello Slaughterhouse, Haltwhistle. Regular inspection is carried out of all animals slaughtered.

These premises continue to be kept in a clean condition but attention is again drawn to the need for the provision of a cooling hall.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

		Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed ...	...	457	90	8	1774	2
Number Inspected ...	...	457	90	8	1774	1
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses						
condemned ...	...	4	10	—	14	1
Carcases of which						
some part or organ						
was condemned ...	...	272	25	1	70	—

Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis ...	60.4	38.2	12.5	4.1	50
Tuberculosis Only					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	13	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	10	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.3	25.6	—	—	—

The following table shows the amount of meat and other foods condemned during the year.

Unsound Food		Surrendered,	Seized.	Legal Pro- ceedings.
1. Beef (Home-Killed)	Stones	783	—	—
2. Beef (Imported) ...	„	11	—	—
3. Mutton (Home-Killed)	„	50	—	—
4. Mutton (Imported) ...	„	—	—	—
5. Pork (Home-Killed) ...	„	9	—	—
6. Pork (Imported) ...	„	—	—	—
7. Game	lbs.	—	—	—
8. Poultry	„	309½	—	—
9. Fish	„	—	—	—
10. Fruit	„	189	—	—
11. Canned Goods	Tins.	1178	—	—
12. Bacon	lbs.	25	—	—
13. Cheese	„	14	—	—
14. Butter	„	25	—	—
15. Lard	„	—	—	—
16. Eggs	„	—	—	—
17. Other Foods Pastry Mix.	Pkts.	22	—	—
18. Margarine	lbs.	15	—	—
19. Offal (Home-Killed)	Stones	595	—	—

MILK PRODUCTION.

Work under the various Milk and Dairies Regulations proceeded satisfactorily during the year and on the transfer of functions to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries the number of farms engaged in the production of T.T. milk was 25—an increase of 8 over the previous year.

The number of registered cowkeepers was as follows:—

Wholesale	....	....	....	98
Retail	....	....	....	19
Wholesale-Retail	....	....	....	45

Under the new legislation the execution and enforcement of regulations on dairy farms (excepting in so far as they relate to diseases communicable to man) now becomes the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, while local authorities retain those provisions which apply outside dairy farms.

HOUSING.

Progress continues to be made in the construction of new houses, and the position at the various sites is as follows:—

Comb Hill Estate.

Number of houses completed	....	38
Number under construction	....	10
		48

Redburn Site—44 Houses.

During the year work on the construction of the roads and sewers progressed favourably. Tenders for the construction were accepted at the end of the year.

Halton-Lea-Gate Site.

Tenders for the construction of the roads and sewers were accepted and an early start is anticipated.

The following table shows the number of houses completed during the year.

Houses Completed During the Year.			With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	{ Permanent	...	24	—	24
	{ Temporary	...	—	—	—
(b) By other Bodies or Persons	{ Permanent	...	—	3	3
	{ Temporary	...	—	—	—

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

Category	C L A S S I F I C A T I O N					Number of Houses
1	Satisfaction in all respects	...	...	...		95
2	Minor Defects	...	...	...	...	39
3	Requiring repair, structural alterations or improvement	...	...	...	...	423
4	Appropriate for reconditioning under housing (Rural Workers) Acts	...	...	...		145
5	Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense	...	...	...	...	63

Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers

....						34
------	------	------	------	------	------	----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs

....		2
------	------	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	....	....	2		
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	....	....	—	}	2

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of Dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made

....			1
------	------	------	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders

....			—
------	------	------	---

(3) Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished (H.A., 1949, S.3)

....				—
------	------	------	------	---

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made....1

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

Number of Houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above 1

HOUSING ACT, 1949. (Sec. 20)

(a) Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been received —

(b) Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been approved —

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

(1) INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	20	40	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	11	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	31	40	—	—

(II) CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Cases in which defects were found.				
	Found	Remedied	To H.M.I.	By H.M.I.	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—

Inadequate Ventil'tion	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective draining of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	2	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The system of refuse collection, by direct labour continues to operate satisfactorily. The collection of sanitary pails continues to be carried out by the refuse collection staff from various parts of the District at present without adequate sewerage systems.

Number of bins lifted per week	....	....	....	3,104
Number of Sanitary pails emptied per week	....			376

RODENT CONTROL

Disinfestation of the various refuse tips was carried out and sewers were treated twice during the year.

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1949.

Housing	....	....	....	....	1,483
Water Supply	....	....	....	....	406
Drainage	....	....	....	....	146
Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	....	226
Food Premises	....	....	....	....	34
Dairies	....	....	....	....	23
Meat Inspection and Slaughter Houses	....				120
Tents, Vans etc.,	....	....	....	....	5
Factories and Work places	....	....	....	....	40
Ashpits and Receptacles	....	....	....	....	44
Offensive Accumulations	....	....	....	....	7
Refuse Collection and Disposal	....	....	....	....	161
Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	....	18
Rodent Control	....	....	....	....	23
Unsound Food	....	....	....	....	21
Sewage Disposal Plants	....	....	....	....	12
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	62
					—
TOTAL					2,831,
					—

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

	By Informal Action	By Statutory Notice	Total
Sanitary Conveniences:			
Privies and Privy ashpits abolished	—	—	—
Privies and Privy ashpits repaired	—	—	—
Pail Closets abolished	15	—	15
Water Closets provided	15	—	15
Number of above for which grant was given, P.H.A., 1936, S.47 ...	—	—	—
Sanitary bins provided	18	13	31
Sanitary bins renewed	17	11	28
Drainage:			
New drains constructed	21	—	21
Drains repaired or reconstructed	13	—	13
Additional gullies provided ...	6	—	6
Old gullies replaced	—	—	—
Scullery sinks provided	9	—	9
Scullery waste-pipes repaired ...	3	—	3
Scullery waste-pipes trapped ...	—	—	—
Yards repaired or reconstructed	—	—	—

WATER SUPPLY

Sources closed or discontinued — No. of houses —

New service provided:

(a) By Local Authority 24 No. of houses 24

(b) By Private Owner 11 No. of houses 11



